

Docket No.: A-2829

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By: [Signature]

Date: June 27, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Lutz Richter et al.
Applic. No. : 09/852,348
Filed : May 9, 2001
Title : Gathering Stapler with Separate Drives and Method of Operating the Gathering Stapler
Art Unit : 3721

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

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In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

United States Patent No. 4,614,290 (Boss), dated September 30, 1986;

United States Patent No. 5,120,036 (Simons), dated June 9, 1992;

United States Patent No. 5,417,410 (Meier), dated May 23, 1995;

United States Patent No. 5,667,212 (Merkli), dated September 16, 1997;

European Search Report dated May 27, 2002.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) the undersigned herewith states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a

communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,


For Applicants

Mark P. Weichselbaum
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Date: June 27, 2002

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